

# DON'T BE A VICTIM OF PENSION POACHERS

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Pension exists to help financially disadvantaged wartime Veterans and their survivors. We can help you file a VA pension claim **free of charge**.

**CALL WDVA AT 800-562-2308**  
**VISIT [WWW.DVA.WA.GOV](http://WWW.DVA.WA.GOV)**  
**OR EMAIL [BENEFITS@DVA.WA.GOV](mailto:BENEFITS@DVA.WA.GOV)**

**BE AWARE:** Be cautious if someone offers to move your assets around for you to qualify for VA pension. This type of scam is often directed toward Veterans and family members who do not actually qualify for VA pension, meaning you could be required to repay these benefits to the government.

**Washington State Law** prohibits a person from certain practices related to assistance in the preparation of a veterans' benefits claim.

If you are concerned about a possible pension poaching scam contact the Attorney General's Office at **888-551-4636** or <http://www.atg.wa.gov/FileAComplaint.aspx>



## VETERANS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

The Veterans Enhancement Program is a partnership between the Washington Health Care Authority and the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs.

WDVA Benefits Specialists connect with veterans who might not realize they are entitled to benefits from the US Department of Veteran Affairs.

Often benefits provided by the VA are more generous than those provided by Medicaid.

WDVA has helped over 4000 Washington veterans and their survivors apply for and receive a VA Pension saving over \$30 million to our State's Medicaid Program.

**CONTACT A WDVA  
VETERANS ENHANCEMENT  
PROGRAM BENEFITS SPECIALIST:**

**800-562-2308**

**[BENEFITS@DVA.WA.GOV](mailto:BENEFITS@DVA.WA.GOV)**

WASHINGTON STATE  
**PENSION AND  
SURVIVORS PENSION**  
**AID & ATTENDANCE**



WASHINGTON STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**VETERANS  
AFFAIRS**

*"Serving Those Who Served"*

**800-562-2308**

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# PENSION

Veterans Pension (also called a Live Pension) is a needs-based benefit paid to a wartime veteran who has limited or no income.

## To Qualify:

The veteran must have served 90 continuous days and at least 1 day during one of these qualifying wartime periods:

- WWI — Apr 6, 1917 to Nov 11, 1918;
- WWII — Dec 7, 1941 to Dec 31, 1946;
- Korea — Jun 27, 1950 to Jan 31, 1955;
- Vietnam — “In Country” Feb 28, 1961 through May 7, 1975, “Era” Aug 5, 1964 through May 7, 1975 ;
- Persian Gulf War — Aug 2, 1990 to present.

## AND

- Be at least 65 years old; **OR**
- Under 65 but permanently or completely disabled not due to own willful misconduct; **AND**
- Discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces under conditions that were not dishonorable.



# SURVIVORS PENSION

Survivors Pension (formerly called **Death Pension**) is a needs-based benefit paid to surviving spouses and children of wartime Veterans, who have limited or no income.

## To Qualify:

The deceased Veteran must meet the same wartime requirements found under Pension.

## AND

For Surviving Spouses:

- You were married to the Veteran at time of death; **AND**
- You have not remarried\*

For dependent children:

- Unmarried child of the deceased Veteran who is under 18; **OR**
- Became permanently helpless before 18; **OR**
- Is between 18 and 23 and pursuing a course of instruction at an approved educational institution.

\*A spouse could have remarried and have Survivors Pension benefits restored if the subsequent marriage was terminated prior to November 1, 1990.

# AID & ATTENDANCE

Aid and Attendance is a supplemental benefit that is based on your level of care and is paid in addition to a Pension or Survivors Pension.

## To Qualify:

You must be eligible for Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension:

- Be a patient in a nursing home due to mental or physical incapacity; **OR**
- Require the aid of another person in order to perform activities of daily living; **OR**
- Be bedridden; **OR**
- Have corrected visual acuity of 5/200 or less in both eyes, or concentric contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less.

## Notes:

- Old Pension and Section 306 Pensions are not eligible for A&A.
- You cannot receive a VA nonservice connected pension and service-connected compensation at the same time; but the VA will automatically award which ever benefit is the greater amount.

CONTACT A WDVA VETERANS  
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BENEFITS SPECIALIST:

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